

Mission Statement

Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

FOUNDED on the teachings of Jesus Christ,
NOURISHED by the hospitality of the Califon Christian
Communities,

FORMED with a commitment to Social Ministry, and
STRENGTHENED by the Holy Spirit

*The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann is
a jubilant people on a continuing spiritual journey of hope:*

TO CELEBRATE and **DEEPEN** our faith

TO SHARE our unique gifts, talents and treasures

TO CHERISH all life

TO LIVE in openness, acceptance and love.

Annual Parish Goal

**We, as ministers, will foster
an inviting and spiritual Catholic community for all,
especially to those away from the Church,
by growing in and witnessing to our faith in the mercy of God.**

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

Diocese of Metuchen

Most Rev. James F. Checchio,
JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, DD
Bishop Emeritus

www.diometuchen.org

Our Parish

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, PhD
..... Pastor
Rev. J William Mickiewicz.....
..... Founding Pastor Emeritus
Earl Roberts.....Deacon
Mary Cangelosi..... Trustee
Fred Heimall..... Trustee

Mailing Address:

PO Box 455
Califon, NJ 07830

Office Center:

398 County Route 513
Califon, NJ
908-832-2513
908-832-7618 fax
www.ccsjn.org

Worshipping at:

398 County Road 513
(Church Center)

Saturday Vigil Mass5:30 p.m.
Sunday8:00 a.m.
Sunday10:30 a.m.
First Friday Holy Hour7:00 p.m.

Worshipping at:

390 County Road 513
(Neumann Residence)

Check the bulletin for any changes

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday8:00 a.m.
Friday7:00 a.m.

Reconciliation:

Saturday.....5:00 p.m.
Or anytime by appointment.

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 6

8:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Friday, March 9

7:00 a.m. Mary E. Byrne, req.
Brisson Family

Saturday, March 10

5:30 p.m. Thomas Regan, req.
St. John Neumann Church

Sunday, March 11

8:00 a.m. Frank Panek, req.

Sharon and Alan Janks

10:30 a.m. Marie Bruno, req.

France Kennedy, Karen Verso
Dee Parker and Fran Stasick



Parish Calendar

Sunday, March 4 - 3rd Sunday of Lent / Yellow Brick Road Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
8:00 a.m. Family Faith Formation (Valley View)
9:00 a.m. Small Group (Seton Room)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Formation (Church Center)
6:00 p.m. CP III Day of Reflection Parent Planning Meeting
(Church Center)

Monday, March 5 - Lenten Weekday

6:00 p.m. Family Faith Formation (Church and Office Centers)
7:00 p.m. Small Group (Drexel Room)

Tuesday, March 6 - Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
11:00 a.m. Small Group (Church Center Loft)
7:00 p.m. Small Group (Neumann Residence)
7:30 p.m. Family Life Meeting (Drexel Room)

Wednesday, March 7 - Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

10:30 a.m. Small Group (Narthex)
7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. (Upper Room)
7:15 p.m. Small Group (Office Center Kitchen)
7:15 p.m. Small Group (Drexel Room)

Thursday, March 8 - Saint John of God, Religious

10:00 a.m. Staff Calendaring Meeting (Drexel Room)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Small Group (Upper Room)

Friday, March 9 - Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Church Center)

Mass Schedule - March 10/11

Saturday

5:30 p.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader Kathleen Swindler
Altar Server Uss Family
Ministers of the Eucharist..... Joan Eacovalle
..... Bob Martalus, Barbara Martalus

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader Brent Herrig
Altar Server Kucharski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist..... Joe Sima
..... Gail Battell, Dorothy Sima

Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Celebrant Bishop James Checchio
Reader Paul Gagen
Altar Server Alligood Family
Music Eucharistic Minister Mark Brisson
Ministers of the Eucharist..... Mary D'Avella, Bob Sobey
..... Jim DeVito, Peter Royal, Doris Royal

Saturday, March 10 - Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Women's Spirituality Coffee (Office Center)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church)
6:30 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation Coffee (Narthex)
6:30 p.m. Youth Nite (Church Center)

Sunday, March 11 - 4th Sunday of Lent / Daylight Savings Time Begins

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. Volunteer Appreciation Coffee (Narthex)
9:00 a.m. Small Group (Seton Room)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
11:30 a.m. Volunteer Appreciation Coffee (Narthex)

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whenever ordering from Amazon.



Go to our website ccsjn.org and
click on the button on the front page.
Or go to <http://tinyurl.com/lx7c83s>

Remembered at Mass



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Charlie Olsson, Helen Boybo, Bill Hackett, Grady Gordon, Gladys Angeline, and Roy**

Deceased: Charlie Olsson, uncle of Joann Fabiano, **Helen Boybo**, grandmother of Sheena Carew, **Bill Hackett**, friend of the Janks/Angeline family, **Grady Gordon**, good friend of the Donovans, **Gladys Angeline**, aunt of Sharon Janks, and **Roy Rittman**. May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord and may their families find strength in the Lord and comfort and support from family and friends.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK....

Dear Friends,

This week during the 5:30pm Mass and the 10:30am Mass we have a Rite called 'Scrutiny' for the 'Catechumen' who are in the RCIA process in our parish. Are all these strange terms for us? I think we will all remember that RCIA stands for the "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults." This year we are privileged to have our parishioners Chris, Shannon, Jennifer, Michelle, Tanya and Michelle in the RCIA session that meets weekly to prepare themselves to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) at the Easter Vigil this year. 'Catechumen' is the term used for an unbaptized person who is attending this preparation in RCIA, and 'Candidate' is the term used for a baptized person who did not receive Eucharist or Confirmation.

Today we have the rite called 'scrutiny' which, as the official Book of *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*, explains, is "meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the scrutines are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life." (no.141) Essentially, it is composed of prayers of intercession and the laying on of hands so that the Holy Spirit may be invoked that they are freed from the spirit of evil. This rite is celebrated purposefully at Mass, so that the whole congregation is given the opportunity to pray for and support those preparing for the Easter sacraments and to make the point that conversion is not only a personal matter but a communal commitment.

As I invite you to pray for our Catechumens and Candidates, let me remind all of us that this Rite of Scrutiny is also an opportunity for the rest of us, to self-examine and see the need for healing in our weakness, detect the sinful habits in our lives and to nourish the good within us so that we can bear good fruits for Christ. Lent is the time to learn from our mistakes of over-indulgence in food, drink, drugs, gambling, promiscuity, anger, revenge, gossip, slander, criticism or any other addictive habit that may keep us from coming to the *living waters* of a right relationship with God. We all have our short list, don't we? And we all know, honest to God, what it is we need to leave behind before we come to the *Living Water* and the Bread of Heaven – as the Samaritan woman of today's gospel shows us. May this be a time for reinforcing our decision to live the Lenten discipline we chose – always trusting in Jesus who is our best friend (John 15:15).

Let's continue to live a happy and holy Lent!
Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

WELCOME TO BISHOP CHECCHIO

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, our bishop, will be visiting our parish next Sunday. He will preside at the 10:30 Mass. We are very happy to get this surprise opportunity to welcome him to our parish community.



SOUP N STATIONS

Please join us for Soup n Stations each Friday in Lent. Soup Supper starts at 6pm and Stations of the Cross follow at 7pm. (March 9th, March 16th and March 23rd) If you have a special soup you like to make or just like to make any soup, please contact the office, 908-832-2513, and let us know which Friday will work for you. We hope that everyone can make at least one of the weeks during lent.



AUCTION NEWS

Planning started with a productive meeting; watch the bulletin for future meeting announcements...all are welcome to attend! We have prizes trickling in (Beaver Brook foursome with cart!), but soliciting is our greatest challenge right now. Can you take a small territory and help out? Please! Contact the office or Steve Bauernfeind (fugitivesteve@hotmail.com) if you can visit local merchants or make calls. Let Father Abraham know if you would like to solicit or join our co-chair – step in for the fun of it!!!

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

March 4, 2018

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything..."

Exodus 20:4

How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY COFFEE



March 10th, 8 AM

Office Center

The Women's Spirituality group will meet next Saturday morning. Join us as we read, reflect upon and pray pondering the Seven Sorrows of Mary during our Lenten gathering. Group contact: Jo Ann Jarvis (jjarvis@ccsjn.org).

NEW AT ST. JOHN'S?

If you are new at St. John's, see one of our greeters at Mass to receive a small information packet to introduce you to the parish. Contact France Kennedy at 908-307-7879 to register at the parish.



Parish Contact Information

Office Center 908-832-2513

Fax 908-832-7618

Email sjn@ccsjn.org

Rev. Abraham Orapankal Pastor

Email abraham@ccsjn.org

Earl Roberts Deacon

Email earlr1@verizon.net

Sharon Janks Pastoral Administrator

Email sjanks@ccsjn.org

France Kennedy Pastoral Associate

Email fkennedy@ccsjn.org

Kerri Caldaro Financial Administrator

Email kcaldaro@ccsjn.org

Wayne Infusino Maintenance

Religious Education 908-832-2162

Renee Ciszewski Director of Religious Education

Email renee@ccsjn.org

Jo Ann Jarvis Office of Catechesis

Email jjarvis@ccsjn.org

Social Ministry socialministry@ccsjn.org

Project Earth Garden... projectearth@ccsjn.org

Bulletin..... bulletin@ccsjn.org

Youth Ministry..... sjnygroup@gmail.com

Christian Formation

1ST EUCHARIST CLASSES

Saturday, March 24, 3:30 p.m.



The next First Eucharist session will be held on Saturday, March 24, at 3:30 p.m. in the Church Center.

TEEN OUTREACH

"Because I'm Worth It"

Tuesday, March 13th, 7:00 p.m.

Each Confirmation Candidate in CP111, along with a parent, will be attending "Because I'm Worth It," a Teen Outreach event on March 13th at 7:00 p.m., at Immaculate Conception School in Annandale. Speaker, Pam Stenzel, will cover the topic of chastity in her captivating and inspiring talk for 8th grade students and up. Please arrive early to check in with Renee Ciszewski and to be seated with the rest of St. John's Confirmandi.

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Mark 10:45



Thank you to all the families that prepared soup and food to enjoy before reciting the stations on Friday evening.

It was wonderful to see our young people participating as servers and readers for the Lenten stations of the Cross. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their faith journey in preparation for Confirmation.

PARENTING TUNE-UP

March 2 is the World Day of Prayer. <http://www.wdp-usa.org> How do you and your children pray? Is it memorized, spontaneous, short, frequent, irregular? Talk together about your favorite style of prayer. Do it! Family quiz: Do you know where Surinam is and what it has to do with prayer. <https://worlddayofprayer.net/about.html>

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

How is your Lenten resolution coming? Is it bringing you closer to your beloved? Consider that both God and your spouse are your beloved. Sacrificing for one can give you a window into how to become closer to the other. Contemplate sacrificial love today.

ADULTS INVITED TO GIFT SESSIONS WITH FR. ABRAHAM



Each month during the Adult segment of the GIFT program, Fr. Abraham gives a presentation on a topic of interest. Recently he reflected on *Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) – the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis*. It was well attended and well appreciated as it gave a greater understanding of the efforts of Pope Francis to bring about Pastoral changes for the good for the whole church.

The next session will be this Sunday at 9:00am and the same will be repeated this Monday at 6:15pm. It will focus on the Catholic Social Teaching which is known as the "best kept secret" of the Catholic Church! We will have a discussion of:

The Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching. These are:

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person. ...
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities. ...
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. ...
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers. ...
- Solidarity. ...
- Care for God's Creation.

As our Parish is on the forefront of Social Ministry and outreach to the less fortunate, please consider joining this session which, as usual, will be interesting and engaging. Please contact Renee Ciszewski renee@ccsjn.org with any questions. Hope to see you at one of our next sessions either on March 4th at Valley View at 9:00 a.m. or March 5th in the Church Center at 6:15 p.m..

LENTEN RICE BOWLS FOR CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES



Join our parish community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Throughout Lent we will pray, fast, learn and give as a way to reach out in solidarity with our brothers and sisters

around the world. Prayerfully consider participating in this Lenten program – 25% of your giving goes to help needy families in our diocese and 75% goes to Catholic Relief Services' developmental projects around the world such as agricultural, water, education and microfinance projects that help families to support themselves. Rice Bowl packets will be available in the Narthex. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Social Ministry

IT IS TIME AGAIN TO THINK ABOUT OUR EASTER FOOD DRIVE

Please save the following dates: Food pack up at church March 23, 2018 after Soup & Stations 7:40pm and Food delivery will take place on March 24, 2018 at 8am. Donations must be in no later than March 21, 2018. Items required: 9 Large Hams and 19 Small Hams/Cornish Hens, Juice, Coffee, Tissues, Rice, Small Cooking Oil, Apple Sauce/Fruit, Dish Soap, Paper Towels, Hand Soap. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any members of the Social Ministry or send an email to socialministry@ccsjn.org. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

THE SPRING GIVING TREE

We are looking for volunteers to operate our Spring Giving Tree this year. The tree will be set-up for Easter weekend. We typically support three agencies, which you will contact and then make a list of items required, make tags, hang on the tree, sort, pack and then deliver the items to the agencies. There are plenty of people who can offer you guidance and we also have many notes available from past drives. If you are interested to take on the Giving Tree Project or just a part of it e.g. delivering the donated items, helping sort out or contacting the agencies, please contact Social Ministry at socialministry@ccsjn.org

Parish News

A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO FASTING!

Lenten fasts have a tendency to be oriented toward things like giving up food or television. But there are many other creative ways we can welcome Jesus' healing touch this Lent. Below are some suggestions you may want to consider.

Fast from anger and hatred. Give your family an extra dose of love each day.

Fast from judging others. Before making judgments, recall how Jesus overlooks our faults.

Fast from discouragement. Hold on to Jesus' promise that he has a perfect plan for your life (Jer. 29:11).

Fast from complaining. When you find yourself about to complain, close your eyes and recall some of the little moments of joy Jesus has given you.

Fast from resentment or bitterness. Work on forgiving those who may have hurt you.

Fast from spending too much money. Try to reduce your spending by ten percent and give these savings to the poor.

May the Lord "who began a good work in you bring it to completion" (Philippians 1:6). Happy Lent!

LIVE LENT!

If you are interested in what the small groups are like – here is a cheat: grab a LIVE LENT book from the Narthex (\$10) use the book for your own Lenten Journey. The small groups use the Sunday scripture, writings and reflection prompts for our group discussions. If you have any questions contact France at the office.

IS THERE MORE THAN ONE WAY TO HEAVEN?

Around the world of religion today, there are about 2 billion Christians, 1 billion Muslims, 750 million Hindus, 334 million Buddhists, 18 million Jews, and a growing number of people who declare no religious allegiance at all. Once upon a time, religious tolerance consisted of Baptists having a worship service with Methodists or a Protestant marrying a Roman Catholic. Now a Hindu may be your next door neighbor or a Baha'i may be dating your daughter. All of us down in our hearts are trying to decide whether we love or hate Muslims. The religious marketplace has become complex. At the crossroads of Faith, we Christians must now consider our relationships with people of other religions. Tibetan leader, His Holiness Dalai Lama says, "All religions are essentially the same in their goal of developing a good human heart that we may become better human beings." ***As the conversation between Jesus and the woman at the well described in today's Gospel becomes intimate, the woman creates distance by introducing a religious debate: "Is there more than one way to Heaven?" Jesus clarifies that He who she is talking to is the Messiah. Later in the same gospel Jesus reaffirmed that He is the way, the truth and life (John 14:6).***

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS INDICATOR!

On 3rd February 1959, 10,000 meters above the Atlantic, Captain Lynch took a last look at the flight panel of the Boeing 707. The co-pilot was studying a map. Captain Lynch decided to stretch his legs, thinking that the worst was over. Shortly after leaving Paris they had run into a 120-kph headwind. But by now they had climbed above the storm. The captain made his way down the aisle. Just then the Captain felt the right-wing tip and he was thrown against the seats on the right hand side. At the same moment all the lights in the plane went out. Next, he found himself lying on the floor. But then he realized it was the ceiling he was on. The Boeing was on its back. He began to make his way back to the cockpit. He decided to try to hold the plane at 2,000 meters. The co-pilot had been knocked unconscious. He came to again and he and the captain managed to bring the Boeing to the horizontal. A few more seconds and the plane would have crashed. The whole incident lasted four minutes. What caused it? While the co-pilot was studying the map, he did not notice the blue light on the indicator panel warning that the automatic pilot had stopped working. God has given us an indicator panel to guide us through life. That indicator panel is the Commandments. The Commandments are a gift from God to help us enjoy life by not getting lost along the way.



DAILY LENT JOURNEY

Sign up at <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/> for daily three minute videos to help you explore your faith and your discipleship.

WHAT WAS SPECIAL ABOUT THE MOVIE 'E.T.'?

E.T. is one of the most successful movies of all time. It is about an extra-terrestrial creature who heals cuts with the touch of his finger, raises dead flowers to life, and who himself is raised from the dead before he departs from the earth, his spaceship leaving a rainbow in the sky. I would guess that millions of people who had never entered the door of a Church flocked to E.T. and were moved by it. They were searching for a source of hope. They were looking for a model of themselves as people who are loved by a Power that will not let them go even in their darkness. ***Today's Gospel tells us about a Samaritan woman who was looking for God to quench her thirst. After many disappointing encounters with men, she found Jesus who gave her 'living waters' and her thirst was quenched, and she was able to inspire others by sharing her story.***

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND, ISRAEL & JORDAN

11 DAYS, NOV 6-16, 2018.

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus, Moses, Mary & The Apostles. Daily Mass, FR ABRAHAM ORAPANKAL, Tour Chaplain. \$3360. Includes RT Airfare from Newark Intl, Daily Breakfast/Dinner, Top Hotels, Guided Tours, Tips to Driver, Guides, Servers, Porters, etc. **JULIET BANAAG-HOBSON 732-439-2835.**

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Joseph Angeline
 George Bernard
 Linda Caprio
 Joan Cardierre
 Jean Crickenberger
 John D'Almeida
 Barbara DelPiano
 Sophia DeVita
 Jennifer Bennett Duckworth
 Cindy Feighan
 Paul Ferri
 Father Luigi Hargen
 Liz Harmon
 Jay Heyman
 Fred Holub
 Eleanor Horan
 Manuel Jimenez, Sr.
 Miriam Jiminian
 Bonnie Lieberwirth
 Lou Livoti
 Dick McCall
 Maggie McKeon
 Jan McLeavey
 Christine Meyer
 Joan & Megan Myers
 Mary Lou O'Brien
 Nancy Patterson
 Nilsa Perez Parsons
 John Pfeufer
 Ali Redling
 Joel Rivera
 Carmen Ruscetta
 Anne Sacco
 Richard Sepe
 Noah Skinner
 Michael Slivka
 Dick Slusher
 Nicholas Troiano
 Don Velli
 William Weimer
 Josh Wilkes
 Dana & Greg Wilson
 Caden & Jill Zane
 Joey Zieba

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Captain Baumann, Katherine, U.S. Army
 Cavallo, Chris, USMC
 C2C, Geerinck, Joshua, U.S. Air Force
 Seaman, Jenkinson, Devin, U.S. Air Force
 Spec. Jablonski, Jon Tyler, U.S. Army
 Private, Linzer, Matthew, U.S. Army
 Seaman, Linzer, Stephanie, U.S. Navy
 SR O'Leary, Thomas, U.S. Navy
 Lieutenant JG Simila, Nicole, U.S. Navy
 Airman, Vardian, Justin, U.S. Air Force
 Ensign, Webster, Justine, U.S. Navy

SUNDAY REFLECTION: "Unleavening"

It's the custom in Jewish households just before Passover to remove all the *chametz*, the leaven, from their homes. It means getting rid of any food made of grain and water that is allowed to ferment and rise: bread, cereal, cake, cookies, pasta, beer. *Chametz* is the opposite of *matzo*, the unleavened flat bread eaten by the Israelites the night before their escape from Egypt.

On the last days before Passover, Jewish families thoroughly clean their homes - especially the kitchen - of every bit of *chametz*. Because *chametz* is such a big part of our diets, getting rid of *chametz* is not a simple task. Every carpet is vacuumed and every floor is swept. Every surface is scrubbed clean with boiling water. Some parents hide pieces of bread throughout the house and, the night before Passover, send their children to find them, to make them part of the ritual of Passover house cleaning.

Whatever food with *chametz* is found is either given away or burned. A separate set of pots, dishes and cutlery are brought out for Passover.

The point of the Passover "unleavening" is to experience again the "newness" of what God has done: freeing his people from slavery and bringing them into a new land of promise and hope. This act of preparing for Passover invites Jews to remove the "spiritual" leaven from their lives as well as the physical stuff. If leaven is the agent for making bread rise, think of *chametz* as the puffy, overextended, inflated parts of our ego. Passover calls us to clean away those distractions and let go of our illusions about ourselves and embrace, instead, the spirit of the humble *matzo*.

As we prepare this Lent to celebrate Christ's "passing over" from the cross to resurrection, may we embrace the spiritual practice of "unleavening" of our Jewish brothers and sisters: to sweep away the *chametz* of business-as-usual that distracts us and takes our time and energy away from realizing the love of God that is at the center of Christ's death and resurrection; to set aside the time to enter fully and prayerfully the Easter mysteries to understand anew the meaning of Jesus' passion in our own lives. Over this second half of Lent, may we "sweep our houses" of the unnecessary and distracting *chametz* in our lives and embrace the humility and joy of the *matzo* in order to fully experience Easter re-creation in our hearts and homes.

MAKING A PRAYER REQUEST AT ST. JOHN'S

Prayer is the way we talk with and listen to God, and the St. John Neumann Prayer Ministry is here to support you in times of need. If you would like the Prayer Ministers to include your request in their prayers, there are three ways to reach out to them:

- *Please fill out a Prayer Request Card, which can be found at the Prayer Station in the Church. It is located on the left side as you enter the Church proper from the Narthex.
- *Send a Prayer Request through the Parish website (www.ccsjn.org). The link is located on the Home Page on the left side. Follow the guide.
- *Call the Parish Office at 908-832-2513 and speak with someone about your request

All requests for confidentiality are honored, and should be noted when making the request. We all know how powerful prayer can be, and many have experienced the peace, guidance, healing and answers to their needs that prayer can bring. As a community we support one another in prayer.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



How to pray: A businessman needed a million dollars to close an important business transaction. He went to church to pray for the money. He knelt and started praying next to a man who was praying for a hundred dollars he needed to pay an urgent debt. The businessman took out his wallet and pressed the hundred dollars into the other man's hand. Overjoyed, the man got up and left the church. The businessman then closed his eyes and prayed, "And now, Lord, that I have your undivided attention...."

Shrines: I recently drove about 2000 miles on various U.S. highways. Along the side of the road there were many shrines marking where people had died in auto accidents. Almost all the shrines included a cross. I only saw a couple with Stars of David. There's only one possible conclusion: Jews are better drivers than Christians!

Parish and Community News

PARISH WEBSITE

What do you think of the parish website? Have you used it? Has it been helpful? What is your impression of it? If you are at all interested in our parish website we would love to get your feedback or input. If you are graphically gifted or want to help the parish reach out to others consider joining the Technology Team which manages the website. We are open to new ideas and feedback for improvements. Contact the office if you would like to help: 832-2513 / sjn@ccsjn.org.

REMEMBER 'ANIMAL FARM'?

Many will be familiar with George Orwell's book *Animal Farm*. It's a bit like a fairy tale but it's really a comment about a certain political regime. It contains a story of how the animals on a farm oust Farmer Jones and his family and take over the farm. They want a better life and start off with the grand vision that all animals are equal and that all property is shared. Soon the pigs take control and one of them, Napoleon, becomes the leader of all the animals. He is tyrant. Equality amongst the animals is out, and the pigs use and abuse the rest of the animals on the farm. The pigs use the other animals for their own purposes and discard them if they are no longer useful. **Most of us know what it's like to feel used and abused by others. We have the best intentions and try our best to be helpful but all we have done is taken for granted and we are discarded like a used Kleenex. It is a well-known fact that when people feel they have been used and abused and their good nature exploited they become suspicious, bitter and cautious for fear of being hurt again. Barriers are erected, relationships shunned, because they never want to be used and abused again. Today's Gospel tells us how Jesus lifts such a barrier of prejudice to save a sinful woman. He broke the gender barrier, the social barrier and the racial barrier.**

VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE THANK YOU!

The event to support our teens' 2018 Catholic Heart Workcamp summer mission trip was a tremendous success. Our profit is \$7000. Thank you to the steadfast believers of Jim Murray and Mike Griffin to handle promotion and entertainment. The kitchen also ran smoothly with Mike Connolly, and Stef Connolly. Daniel Uss manned the dishwasher and earned the MVP award! Jennifer and Olivia Sarubbi were critical in prepping for the dishwasher - it's an awful job but they did it with joy. Thank you to Renee Osgood and Jennifer Anderson who came in and cleaned the kitchen before we all arrived.

Thank you to Fr. Abraham for his continued support for this ministry. Thank you to the office staff of Sharon Janks, JoAnn Jarvis, Kerri Caldero, and France Kennedy who sent emails, took reservations, and answered questions. Barbara Pannone organized the profitable sale of delicious truffles before the event and at the dance. Regina DeStefano, Phyllis Baker, Kathleen Swindler, and Pam Casserly were the energizer bunnies with assisting our servers, promoting the soup, slicing the cakes, serving the salad and doing whatever was needed. I am very grateful to those folks who stayed after the event on Friday night and helped transform it from a dance party back to our worship space. Thank you to our parishioners who attended the event. Extra special thanks to those who financially donated above and beyond the dance itself.

To our babysitting crew of Wendy King and Madison D'Avella. To our enthusiastic teen servers - Zach Lowry, Griffin Stasick, Rich Wellbrock, Dana Fabiano, Andrew Fabiano, Mia Ranallo, Andrew Ranallo, Lauren Tabor, Owen Tabor, Stella Dabrowski-Wheeler, Michael Cucchiara and friend Jess, Lisa Cucchiara, and Gavin Rudin. I may have missed some of your names but you all have a special place in my heart for your help. To Alex Kuhn who came on Saturday morning to help with recycling, trash and loading my car!

Last but not least - to Wayne Infusino. He relocates all of the pews, moves in all of the tables and chairs, and basically takes care of all that is needed to make the space ready for a fabulous night. Never any rest for him!

The theme for CHWC this summer is "ECHO". Thank you for making this experience possible for our teens.

"Be imitators of God and walk in love, as Christ loved us..." (Ephesians 5:1-2). As followers of Christ, we are called to imitate the very acts of love and kindness that He demonstrated throughout His life on earth. We are called to ECHO the heart of Jesus in our world today by serving the neglected, brokenhearted, and marginalized members of society.
Mary Connolly

WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 25, 2018

78 Donors Weekly\$4,374.00
2 Yellow Brick Road\$165.00
13 Snow & Heat\$450.00
26 Development of Peoples ..\$417.00

February 26, 2017

88 Donors Weekly\$3,807.00
39 Development of Peoples ...\$967.00
6 Snow and Heat.....\$210.00
1 Catholic Education\$5.00
2 Yellow Brick Road\$45.00



STORE CARDS

Thanks to **14 families** who purchased the grocery and store cards last week. The total cards sold totaled **\$2,200.00**. The stores gave us **\$109.38**.

Amazon profit for the month was \$214.39. With a year to date profit of \$450.78. Thanks for participating

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

To date, the Development Office has received pledges and payments totaling \$14,581 from 39 parishioners. This represents 38.4% of our \$38,000 goal.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., March 7 J. Santoro
Tues., March 13 A. Sawczuk
Wed., March 14 S. Griffin

Store Cards

March 3 and 4

5:30 p.m. E. McCabe
8:00 a.m. K. Dabrowski
10:30 a.m. J. Varcadipane

March 10 and 11

5:30 p.m. L. Livoti
8:00 a.m. V. Hoffart
10:30 a.m. D. Royal

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of March 4 M. Proano
Week of March 11 C. Fortenbacher

Church Center Cleaning

March 8 Team F
March 15 Team A

Counting

March 5 Kucharski/Kosakowski
March 12 Malone/Baernefeind

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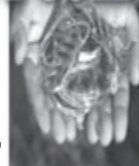
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